

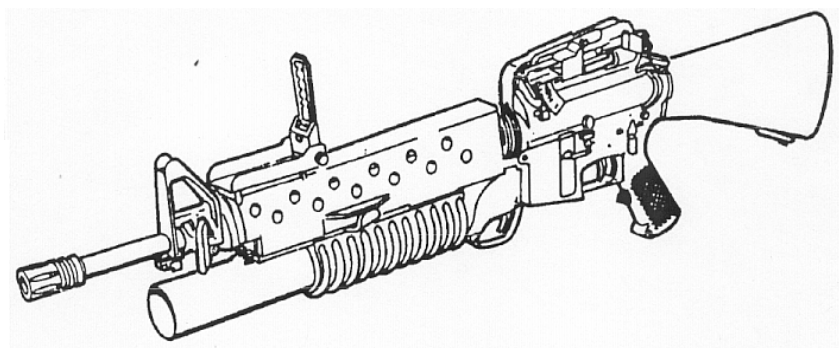
THE M203 40MM GRENADE LAUCHER

History.

During the 1960's, the grenade launcher that the rifle platoon carried was the M79 thump gun (or "blooper"). Its only problem was that in situations where the M79 could not be employed, the grenadier did not have an offensive weapon. The solution to this problem was the genesis of the M203: a combination of the rifle with the grenade launcher. The m203 started replacing the M79 in the early 1970's. Today the fire team leaders in an infantry platoon carry the M203; it can be found in almost every unit in the Marine Corps. The M79 is still used in many places worldwide, to include Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, the Philippines, and many of our allies. The M79 and M203 fire the same, interchangeable 40mm rounds.

Description.

The M203 40mm grenade launcher is a lightweight, single shot, breech-loaded, pump action (sliding barrel), shoulder-fired weapon attached to the M16A2 rifle.



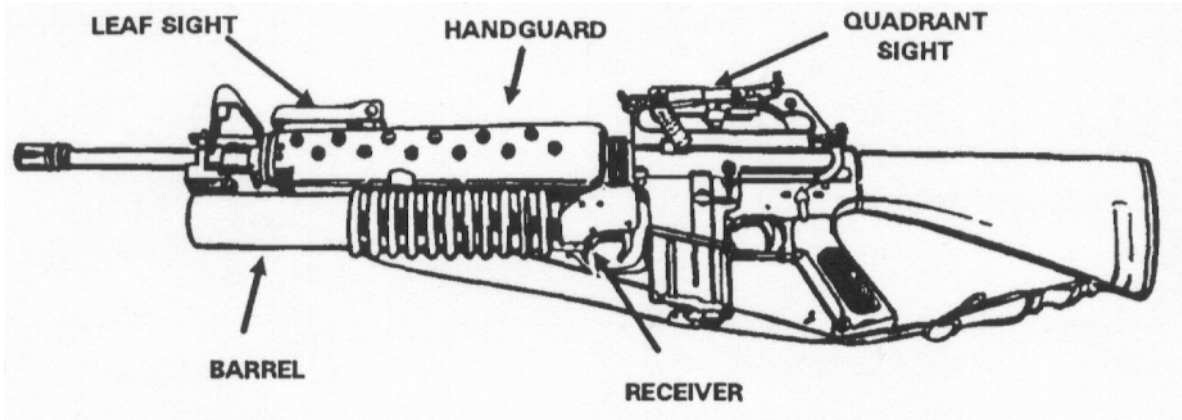
The specifications of the M203 40mm grenade launcher are listed in the table below.

Characteristic	Metric	English
Length of barrel	30 cm	12 in
Weight		
• Unloaded	1.35 kg	3 lbs
• Loaded (M16A2 with M203)	5.35 kg	11.12 lbs

Capabilities. The M203 40mm grenade launcher capabilities are listed in the table below.

Maximum effective range	
• Point target	150 m
• Area target	350 m
Maximum range	400 m
Effective casualty radius (ECR)	5 m
Limited anti-armor capability steel penetration	2 in (HEDP direct fire)

Components. The major components of the M203 grenade launcher and their purposes are discussed here and are shown in the diagram below. Other component parts (the sight assemblies, the trigger and trigger guard, and safety) are discussed and shown in subsequent diagrams.

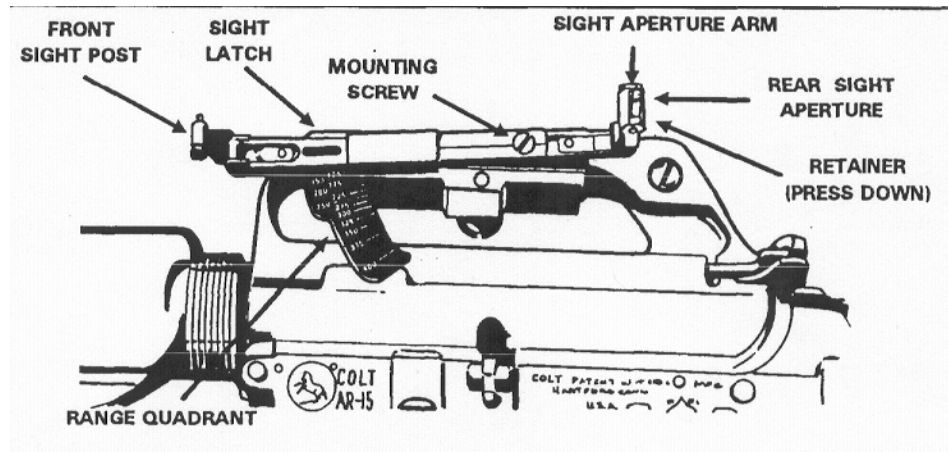


Major Components of the M203 Grenade Launcher

Handguards. The handguard assembly houses the rifle barrel.

Quadrant Sight Assembly. The quadrant sight assembly, which attaches to the left side of the rifle's carrying handle, enables the grenadier to adjust for elevation and windage (see diagram above). This assembly (see diagram below) consists of the

- Mounting screw
- Sight
- Sight latch
- Rear sight aperture
- Sight aperture arm
- Front sight post
- Sight post arm



Quadrant Sight Assembly

Clamp, Bracket Assembly, and Mounting Screw. The clamp and bracket assembly hold the quadrant sight on the rifle's carrying handle. A mounting screw inserts through the right side of the clamp and into the bracket assembly.

Sight Arm and Range Quadrant. The sight arm mounts both the sight aperture (which holds the rear sight aperture) and the sight post arm (which holds the front sight post). This allows the sight to pivot on the range quadrant to the desired range setting. The range quadrant is graduated in 25-meter increments from 50 to 400 meters. Applying rearward pressure on the sight latch releases the quadrant sight arm so it can move along the range quadrant. The desired range number is then centered in the rear sight aperture. Releasing the sight latch locks the sight in position.

Front Sight Post. The front sight post mounts on the sight post arm by means of a pivot bracket. The bracket is

- Opened when the sights are to be used
- Closed when they are not in use to prevent damage to the sights

Use the sight post as follows to make minor adjustments in elevation when zeroing the launcher:

To	Turn the elevation adjustment screw
Decrease elevation	On the sight post to the right
Increase elevation	On the sight post to the left
Move the projectile's impact 5 meters at a range of 200 meters	One full turn

Rear Sight Aperture. The rear sight aperture is on the sight aperture arm, which is attached to the rear portion of the quadrant sight. Use the rear sight aperture to make minor adjustments in deflection (windage) when zeroing the launcher as follows:

To	Action
Move the impact to the left	Press the rear sight aperture retainer and move the rear sight aperture away from the barrel
Move the impact to the right	Press the rear sight aperture retainer and move the rear sight aperture closer to the barrel
Move the projectile's impact 1½ meters at a range of 200 meters	Move the rear sight aperture one notch

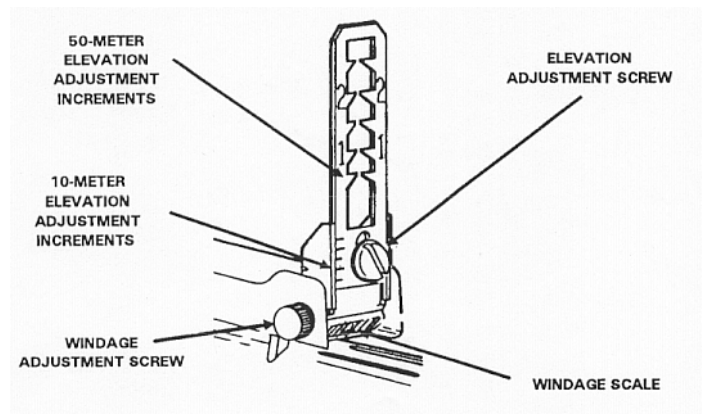
Receiver Assembly. The receiver assembly houses the firing mechanism and ejection system and supports the barrel assembly (Figure 1).

Barrel Assembly. The barrel assembly holds the cartridges ready for firing and directs the projectile (Figure 1).

Leaf Sight Assembly. The leaf sight assembly is attached to the top of the handguard (see diagram below). The leaf sight assembly consists of

- The sight
- Its base and mount
- An elevation adjustment screw
- A windage adjustment screw

Elevation and windage scales are marked on the mount. The folding, adjustable, open ladder design on the sight permits rapid firing without sight manipulation. The front sight post of the M16-series rifle serves as the front aiming post for the M203 leaf sight.



Leaf Sight Assembly

Sight Base. Two mounting screws permanently attach the sight base to the rifle handguard. The base protects the sight from damage when the sight is not being used or is in the down position.

Sight Mount and Sight. The grenadier uses the sight mount, which is attached to the sight base, to raise or lower the sight. Though the range is not marked on the sight in meters, the sight is graduated in 50-meter increments from 50 to 200 meters, which are marked with a

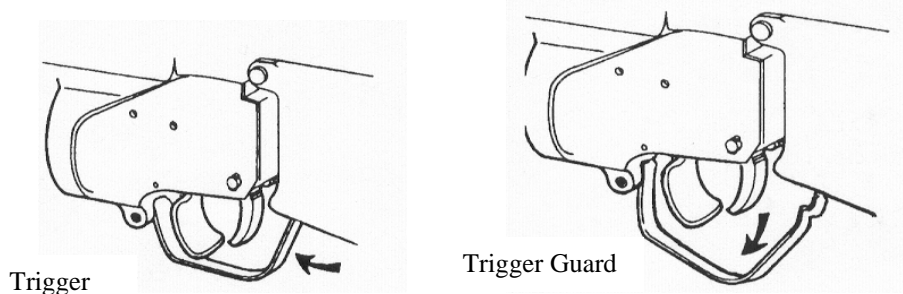
- “1” at 100 meters
- “2” at 200 meters

Elevation Adjustment Screw and Elevation Scale. The screw attaches the sight to its mount. When the screw is loosened, the sight can be moved up or down to make minor adjustments in elevation during the zeroing procedure. The rim of a 40-mm cartridge case is useful for turning the screw. Raising the sight increases the range, lowering the sight decreases the range. The elevation scale consists of five lines spaced equally on the sight. The index line is to the left of the sight. Moving the sight one increment moves the impact of the projectile 10 meters in elevation at a range of 200 meters.

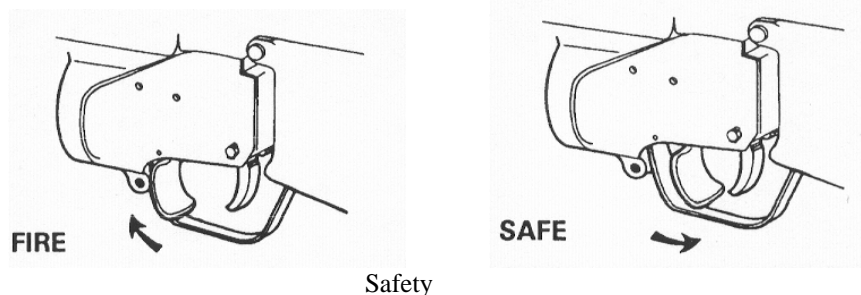
Windage Screw and Windage Scale. To make minor deflection adjustments during the zeroing procedure, a knob on the left end of the windage screw is turned. The scale has a zero line in its center and two lines spaced equally on each side of the zero line. Moving the knob one increment on the windage scale moves the impact of the projectile 1 ½ meters at a range of 200 meters.

DANGER: The 50-meter mark on the leaf sight blade is marked in red to emphasize that this range must not be used for zeroing procedures. Zeroing is extremely dangerous at 50 meters or less due to fragmentation.

Trigger Guard. The trigger guard protects the trigger (see left diagram below). Depressing the rear portion of the trigger guard rotates it down and away from the magazine well of the rifle, which allows the weapon to be fired while the firer is wearing gloves or mittens (B, Figure 4).



Safety. The safety is inside the trigger guard, just in front of the trigger. For the launcher to fire, the safety must be forward (see left diagram below). When the safety is rearward, the launcher is on SAFE (see right diagram below). The safety is manually adjusted.



Considerations. The M203 40mm grenade launcher

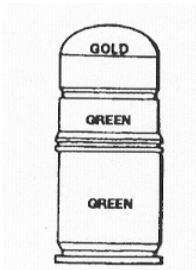
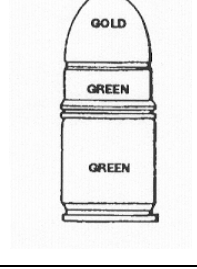
- Can bridge the gap between hand grenades and indirect fire assets
- Enables fire team/squad to cover its own dead space
- Is squad leader's hip pocket fire support
- Can point fire on
 - Caves
 - Bunkers
 - Windows

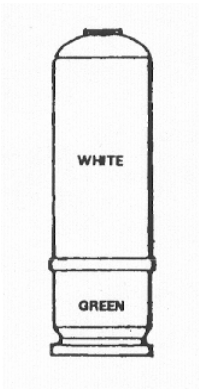
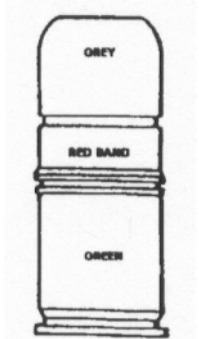
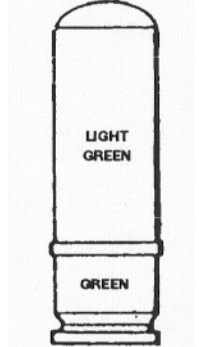
Limitations. The M203 40mm grenade launcher

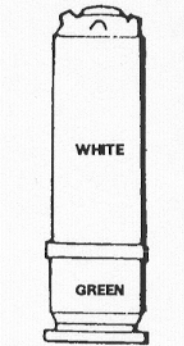
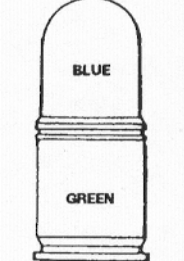
- Needs clear trajectory
- Has relatively slow rate of fire
- Has sights that are vulnerable to damage
- Has minimum safe engagement range for HEDP of 165 meters in peacetime or 31 meters in combat

Ammunition. All M203 ammunition is "fixed"; that is, the ammunition has two major assemblies, projectile and cartridge case, which are issued "fixed" together in one round. Because the characteristics of the different types of ammunition vary greatly, they will be described separately.

Fuse. The fuses for the high explosive dual purpose (HEDP), (DODIC B546) (see HEDP picture below) and the practice (M407A1, DODIC B577) (not pictured) rounds are impact detonated. They are armed by spin and set back action and must travel 14 to 28 meters from the muzzle before being armed. Once the fuse is armed, it is very sensitive; take care so that the round has a clear trajectory to the target. Because of their sensitivity, the firing of these rounds is restricted to dedicated sensitive fuse impact areas. The 40mm practice (M781, DODIC B519) does not contain a sensitive fuse and can be fired on live fire maneuver ranges.

Ammunition	Description	Picture
High explosive dual purpose (HEDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olive drab aluminum skirt • Green middle band • Gold tip/White markings • Three evenly spaced indentations on the tip (for periods of reduced visibility) • When fired straight at steel armor, can penetrate 2 inches of steel plate. • ECR is 5 meters 	
High Explosive (HE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as the HEDP except that the tip is more pointed. • It produces a ground burst that causes casualties within a 5-meter radius. 	

Ammunition	Description	Picture
Star parachute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White impact or bar alloy aluminum with black markings • Used for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illumination/Signals • Is lighter and more accurate than comparable hand-held signal rounds • Parachute attached to the round deploys upon ejection to lower the candle at 7 feet per second • Candle burns for about 40 seconds • Round is identified by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Writing on the side • A letter raised on the tip to indicate the color of the round (W – white, R – red, or G – green) 	
Tactical CS (CS round) grenade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easily recognized by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blunt, gray nose • Red stripe • Six evenly spaced gaps in the extraction rim of the cartridge case (for identification during hours of darkness) • Used primarily for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riot control • Civil disturbances • Maximum range is 400 meters • Will burn and release CS for 25 seconds on impact 	
Ground marker (smoke) round	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light green impact aluminum with black markings • Tip is the color of the smoke (red, green, or yellow) • Used for signaling and marking 	

Ammunition	Description	Picture
White star cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White with black markings • Attached plastic ogive has a raised “W” for night identification • Used for signaling • Individual stars burn for about 7 seconds during free fall 	
Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used for training • Identified by blue tip • On impact, the frangible ogive ruptures and releases a yellow-orange puff of dye 	

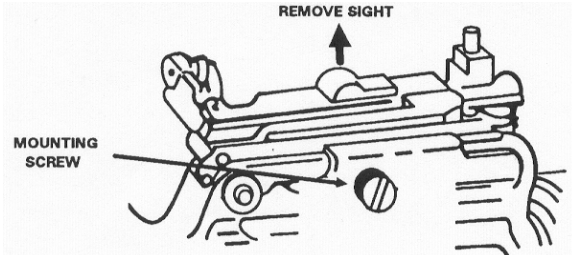
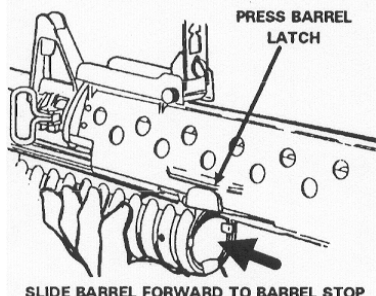
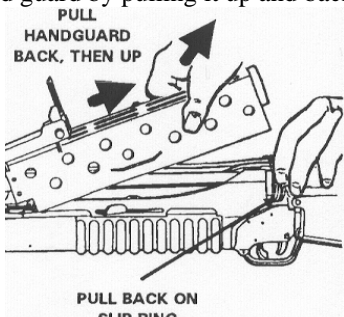
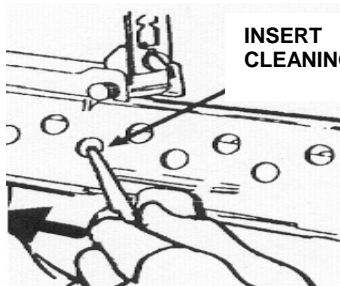
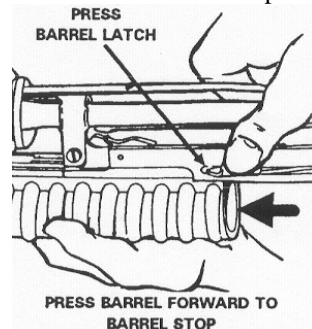
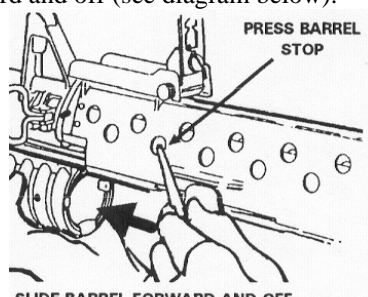
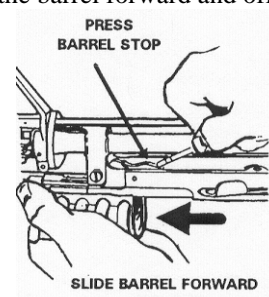
Unloading/Clearing. Follow, in sequence, the steps in the table below to ensure that the M203 is clear of ammunition.

Step	Action
1	Point weapon in a safe direction.
2	Attempt to put the weapon on safe.
3	Depress the barrel latch and push the barrel assembly forward, catching the round as it is extracted from the chamber.
4	Secure the round.
5	Inspect the chamber to ensure that no ammunition is present.
6	Pull the barrel assembly to the rear until the barrel latch locks into position.
7	Place the weapon on safe.

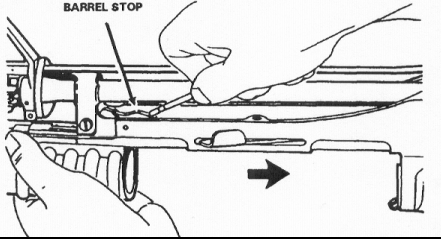
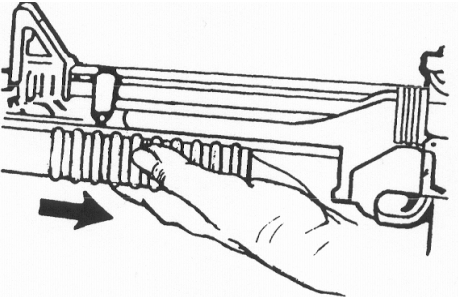
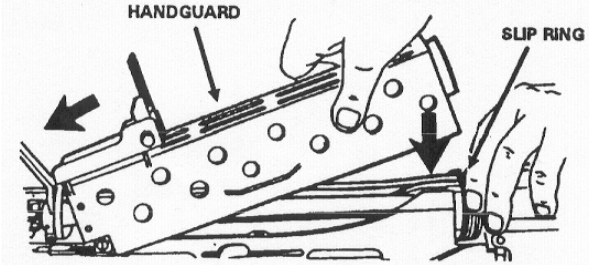
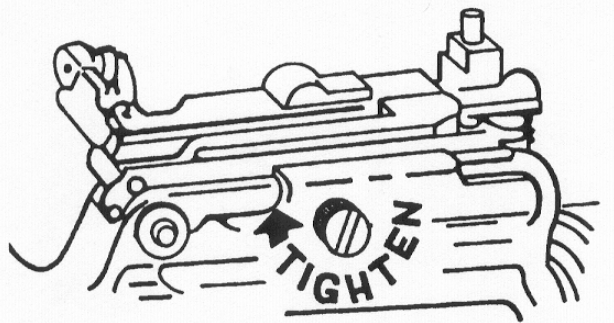
Cleaning and Inspecting. The table below describes how to clean and inspect the M203.

Component	Action
Barrel assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean with a bore brush the same diameter as the barrel (40mm). • Use CLP to clean off dirt and carbon. • During inspection, look for cracks in the hand guard and be sure all carbon is removed.
Receiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use an all-purpose brush to clean all surfaces. • During inspection, be sure the receiver is tightly secured to the M16 and no rust or dirt is in the firing pin hole.
Hand guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean in the same manner that you clean M16 hand guards. • During inspection, look for cracks in the hand guards.
Sights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean with a paintbrush or all-purpose brush to sweep away any dirt. • During inspection, be sure the sights are movable and in proper working order.
Metal surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply a light coat of CLP on all metal surfaces; do <i>not</i> put any CLP in the firing pin hole of the receiver.

Disassembly. Before disassembling the M203, you must clear the weapon. The table below lists the steps for disassembling the M203.

Step	Action	
1	Loosen the mounting screw and remove the quadrant sight assembly from the sight mount of the M16A2 rifle (see diagram below).	
<div></div> <p>Removing the Quadrant Sight</p>		
2	Remove the barrel assembly and hand guard assembly, in either order (see table below).	
Step	Method 1, Barrel Assembly First	Method 2, Hand Guard Assembly First
1	<p>Push the barrel latch and move the barrel forward until it hits the barrel stop.</p> <div></div>	<p>Pull back on the M16's slip ring and remove the hand guard by pulling it up and back.</p> <div></div>
2	<p>On the left side of the hand guard, insert a cleaning rod into the fourth hole back from the muzzle.</p> <div></div>	<p>Push the barrel latch and move the barrel forward until it hits the barrel stop.</p> <div></div>
3	<p>Depress the barrel stop and slide the barrel forward and off (see diagram below).</p> <div></div>	<p>Use a cleaning rod to depress the barrel stop and slide the barrel forward and off.</p> <div></div>

Reassembly. Assembly of the grenade launcher (described in the table below) is the reverse of disassembly.

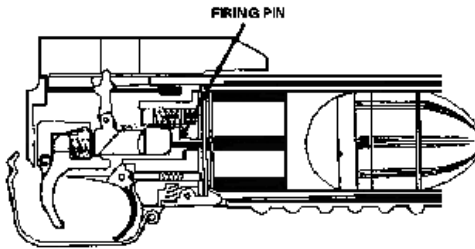
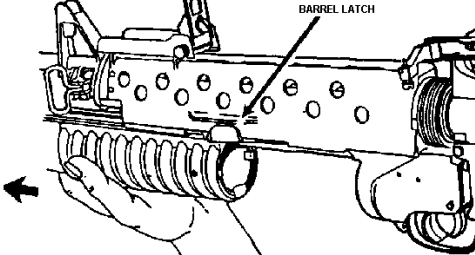
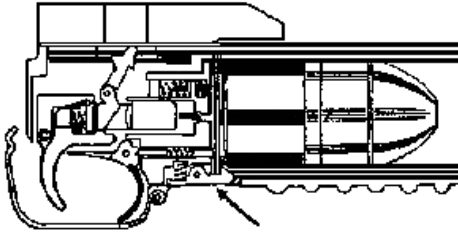
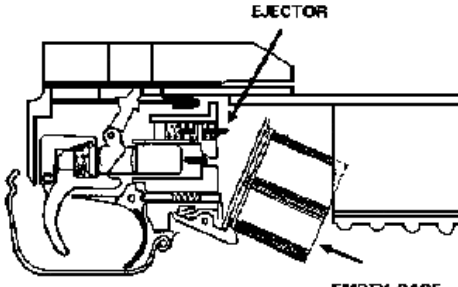
Step	Action
1	Install the barrel by pressing the barrel stop and sliding the barrel into the receiver. 
2	Lock the barrel by moving it rear ward until it closes with a “click”. 
3	Install the handguard, and secure it with the slip ring. 
4	Install the quadrant sight assembly. 

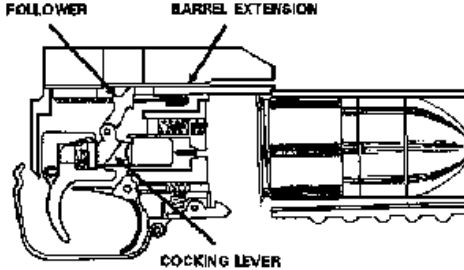
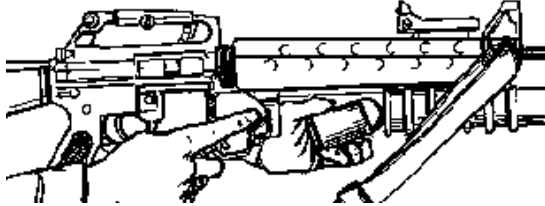
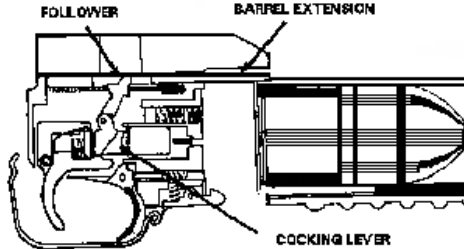
Function Check. Perform a function check in the correct order to ensure that the grenade launcher has been assembled correctly. Notify the unit armorer at once if the launcher fails to function. Conduct the function check as described in the table below.

Step	Action
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the proper operation of the sear. • Cock the launcher and pull the trigger. The firing pin should release with a metallic click. • Hold the trigger to the rear and cock the launcher again. Release the trigger, then pull. The firing pin should again release.
2	Check the safety in both the SAFE and FIRE positions by pulling the trigger. The launcher must be cocked before the safety can be placed in the SAFE position.

Step	Action
3	Check the leaf sight assembly windage adjustment screw for proper operation. Move the elevation adjustment screw <u>only</u> if the weapon has been zeroed.
4	Move the barrel forward and back. Be sure both the stop and barrel latch function.

Functioning. The cycle of function consists of the eight steps described in the table below.

Step	Description
Firing	<p>As the trigger is pulled rearward, the primary trigger sear is disengaged from the bottom surface of the firing pin, releasing the spring-driven firing pin and causing it to be forced against the primer of the cartridge.</p>  <p>The diagram shows a cross-section of the launcher's internal mechanism. A label 'FIRING PIN' points to the tip of a spring-driven pin that is positioned to strike the primer of a cartridge seated in the barrel.</p>
Unlocking	<p>Accomplished by depressing the barrel release latch and sliding the barrel assembly forward.</p>  <p>The diagram shows a hand operating a lever labeled 'BARREL LATCH'. An arrow indicates the barrel assembly is being moved forward.</p>
Extracting	<p>Extracting and cocking take place at the same time. As the barrel assembly is opened, a spring-loaded extractor keeps the spent cartridge seated against the receiver until the barrel is clear of the cartridge case.</p>  <p>The diagram shows the internal mechanism with the barrel assembly open. A label 'EXTRACTOR' points to a component that is holding the spent cartridge case in place.</p>
Ejecting	<p>Accomplished by a spring-loaded ejector pushing the expended cartridge case away from the face of the receiver assembly when the barrel assembly has cleared the cartridge case.</p>  <p>The diagram shows the ejector mechanism in action. A label 'EJECTOR' points to the spring-loaded component pushing the 'EMPTY CASE' out of the receiver assembly.</p>

Step	Description
Cocking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The barrel latch, when depressed, unlocks the barrel assembly, so it can be moved forward along the receiver assembly. As the barrel assembly extension, which is interlocked with the cocking lever, moves forward, the cocking lever is forced downward, which, in turn, forces the spring-loaded firing pin rearward. The spring-loaded follower moves forward with the barrel extension. As the barrel assembly continues its forward movement, the barrel extension disengages from the cocking lever, and the follower holds the cocking lever in the down position. When the barrel assembly is moved rearward, the follower is also forced to the rear. The cocking lever again engages the barrel extension, and the firing pin moves slightly forward and engages the primary trigger sear. The weapon is then cocked. 
Loading	<p>When the barrel assembly is in the open position, the cartridge is inserted into the breech end of the barrel.</p> 
Chambering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurs during the closing of the barrel assembly. As the breech end of the barrel assembly closes, the barrel latch becomes engaged to the barrel assembly, and the cocking lever engages the barrel extension so that it cannot be moved forward along the receiver assembly. 
Locking	<p>Accomplished by sliding the barrel assembly toward the grenadier until the barrel release latch engages in its notch in the barrel assembly thereby locking the barrel assembly to the receiver assembly.</p>

Zeroing. A correct zero consists of the elevation and windage sight settings that enable the grenadier to hit the point of aim at a given range with either the leaf or the quadrant sight. The table below lists the steps to zero the leaf sight.

Step	Action
1	Select a target at 200 meters.
2	Place the sight in the upright position.
3	Place the center mark of the windage scale on the index line on the rear of the sight base.

Step	Action
4	Loosen the elevation adjustment screw on the leaf sight; place the leaf sight's index line on the sight mount's center elevation mark.
5	Tighten the elevation adjustment screw.
6	Assume a prone supported firing position.
7	Load one round of 40mm HEDP or TP ammunition.
8	Use correct sighting and aiming procedures to align the target with the front leaf sight.
9	Fire a round, sense the impact, and adjust the sight <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windage: Turn the sight windage screw clockwise to move the leaf sight to the left; counterclockwise to move it to the right. One increment moves round impact 1½ meters at a range of 200 meters. • Range: Use a 40mm cartridge case and turn the elevation adjustment screw to raise the leaf sight and increase the range; lower the leaf sight to decrease the range. Turning the screw one increment moves round impact 10 meters at a range of 20 meters.
10	Fire two more cartridges, readjusting the sight after each. Once a round impacts within 5 meters of the target, the weapon is zeroed.
11	After you have zeroed the weapon, record the zero data on your scorecard. As soon as you can, transfer the information to a separate, small piece of paper and tape it inside the M16 pistol grip.







Zeroing the Quadrant Sight. The table below lists the steps to zero the quadrant sight.


Step	Action
1	Select a target at 200 meters.
2	Ensure that the quadrant sight is correctly mounted on the rifle's carrying handle.
3	Open the front sight post and rear sight aperture. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move the <i>front sight post</i> to its highest position, then back 2½ turns. • Depress the rear sight retainer. Slide the <i>rear sight aperture</i> to the left until its white index line aligns with the edge of the sight aperture arm.
4	Move the sight latch rearward, and reposition the quadrant sight arm to zeroing range (200 meters).
5	Assume a prone supported firing position.
6	Use correct sighting and aiming procedures to align the target with the front sight post and rear sight aperture.
7	Load one round of 40mm HEDP or TP ammunition.
8	Fire a round, sense the impact, and adjust the sight. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevation: Turn the front sight post right to decrease elevation; left to increase elevation. At a range of 200 meters, one full turn equals 5 meters. • Windage: Press the sight aperture retainer; move the rear sight aperture away from the barrel to move the trajectory to the left; toward the barrel to move it to the right. At a range of 200 meters, one notch on the rear sight aperture equals 1½ meters.
9	Fire two more cartridges, readjusting the sights after each. If the round lands within 5 meters of the target, the weapon is zeroed.
10	After you have zeroed the weapon, record the zero data. Keep the data in the butt of the weapon with the M16A2 BZO data.

Firing Positions. The four fundamentals of M203 marksmanship are steady

- Position
- Aiming
- Breathing
- Trigger control

When the grenadier changes position, only the first fundamental (steady position) varies; the other three remain the same. The basic firing positions are shown in the table below

Position	Picture
Supported prone	
Squatting	
Kneeling	
Sitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-legged  • Open-legged  • Cross-ankled 

Position	Picture
Standing	

Immediate Action. Take immediate action in the event of either a

- Hangfire - a *delay* in the functioning of the round's propelling charge explosive train at the time of firing. The length of this delay is unpredictable, but in most cases, it ranges between a split second and 30 seconds. Such a delay in the functioning of the round (hangfire) could result from the presence of grit, sand, frost, ice, or excess oil or grease.
- Misfire – a weapon's *complete failure to fire*. A misfire in itself is not dangerous; however, because it cannot be immediately distinguished from a hangfire, it must be considered a hangfire until proven otherwise.

Either can be caused by an ammunition defect or by a faulty firing mechanism. Any failure to fire must be considered a hangfire, until that possibility is eliminated.

Procedures. Because a stoppage may have been caused by a hangfire, you must follow the precautions listed below until the round has been removed from the weapon and the cause of the failure determined.

Step	Action
1	Keep the M203 pointed down range at the target; keep everyone clear of its muzzle. If the stoppage occurs during training, shout, "Misfire!" and clear the area of any nonessential personnel.
2	Wait 30 seconds from the time of failure.
3	Before opening the barrel assembly to perform the unloading procedure, reduce the distance that the round may fall by holding the weapon close to the ground.
4	Depress the barrel latch and push the barrel assembly all the way forward.
5	After removing the round from the receiver, determine whether the round or the firing mechanism is defective. Examine the primer to see if it is dented. If the primer is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dented, separate the round from other ammunition until it can be disposed of properly. • Not dented, reload and attempt to fire again. If the round fails to fire, the firing mechanism is at fault.

Weapons Condition Codes. The table below describes the applicable weapons condition codes for the M203 grenade launcher.

Weapons Condition Code	Description
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round in the chamber • Barrel closed • Safety on
2	Not applicable to the M203.
3	Not applicable to the M203.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber empty • Barrel closed • Safety on

Weapons Commands.

The steps to execute “Make Ready” taking the M203 from condition 4 to condition 1 are listed in the table below.

Step	Action
1	Point weapon in a safe direction.
2	Ensure the weapon is in condition 4.
3	Depress the barrel latch and push the barrel assembly all the way forward.
4	Insert a round into the chamber until it is fully seated.
5	Pull the barrel assembly to the rear until the barrel latch locks into position.
6	Place the weapon on safe.

The steps to execute “Fire” are listed in the table below.

Step	Action
1	Take the weapon off safe.
2	Engage the target.

The steps to execute “Unload” taking the M203 from condition 1 to condition 4 are listed in the table below.

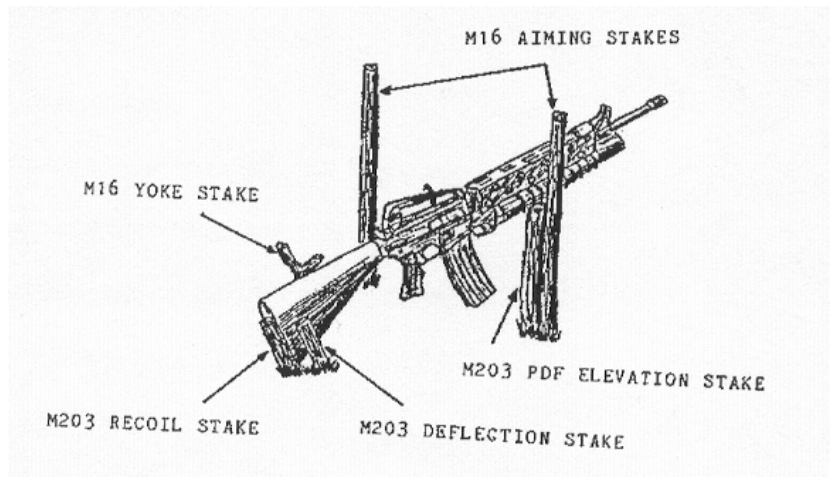
Step	Action
1	Point the weapon in a safe direction.
2	Attempt to put the weapon on safe.
3	Depress the barrel latch and push the barrel assembly forward, catching the round as it is extracted from the chamber.
4	Secure the round.
5	Inspect the chamber to ensure that no ammunition is present.
6	Pull the barrel assembly to the rear until the barrel latch locks into position.
7	Put the weapon on safe. NOTE: The cartridge case or round should automatically eject. If the case is stuck, tap it with a cleaning rod to remove it.

The steps to execute “Unload Show Clear” taking the M203 from condition 1 to condition 4 are listed in the table below.

Step	Action
1	Point the weapon in a safe direction.
2	Attempt to put the weapon on safe.
3	Depress the barrel latch and push the barrel assembly forward, catching the round as it is extracted from the chamber.
4	Secure the round.
5	Inspect the chamber to ensure that no ammunition is present.
6	Have a second individual inspect the chamber to ensure no ammunition is present.
7	Pull the barrel assembly to the rear until the barrel latch locks into position.
8	Put the weapon on safe.

Constructing Field-Expedient Firing Aids for an M203 (see diagram below). The fire team leader emplaces both yoke and sector of fire stakes to be used in firing the rifle and emplaces additional stakes when assigned a principal direction of fire (PDF) for the grenade launcher. When assigned a PDF,

- Place a recoil stake or sandbag to the rear of the butt plate.
- Position a deflection stake adjacent to the recoil stake to ensure proper lateral deflection.
- Position an elevation stake adjacent to one of the sector stakes to ensure proper elevation and range and to aid in maintaining proper deflection.



Field-Expedient Firing Aids

Employment.

Offense. The team leader/grenadier employs the grenade launcher in the offense to

- Destroy groups of enemy personnel
- Provide close fire support in the assault in conjunction with, and to supplement, other supporting fires

During the assault, the fire team leader/grenadier may employ the rifle until

- Suitable targets appear
- Time to reload the M203 exists

Defense. In the defense, the fire team leader/grenadier's position should enable control of the fire time and delivery of grenade launcher fires over the entire fire team's sector of fire. Prepare primary and alternate positions to provide maximum cover and concealment consistent with the assigned mission. Take extreme care to ensure that fields of fire are cleared of obstructions that might cause premature detonation of the projectile.

References.

TM 9-1010-221-10, *Operator's Manual, M203 Grenade launcher*
FMFM 6-5, *Marine Rifle Squad*
FM 23-31, *40-mm Grenade Launchers, M203 & M79*

M203 Review Questions

Short Answer. Write your answer to these 16 questions in the space provided.

1. What must you do before you disassemble the M203?

2. Write, in correct sequence, the three steps for removing the barrel assembly of the M203 using method 1?

3. Write, in correct sequence, the three steps for removing the barrel assembly of the M203 using method 2?

4. What is Condition 1 for the M203?

5. What is the effective casualty radius of the M203 HEDP round?

6. What is the maximum effective range of the M203 against a point target?

7. What is Condition 4 for the M203?

8. Do not fire HEDP at targets closer than

- a. _____ meters during training
- b. _____ meters in combat

9. What is the first thing you do during immediate action in a training situation?

10. What is a delay in the functioning of the round's propelling charge explosive train at the time of firing?

11. What is the desired range for zeroing the M203?

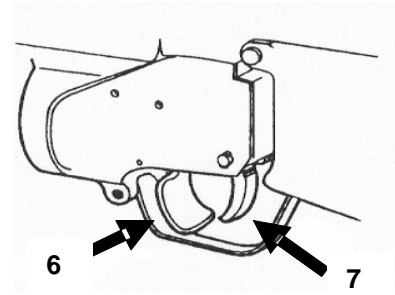
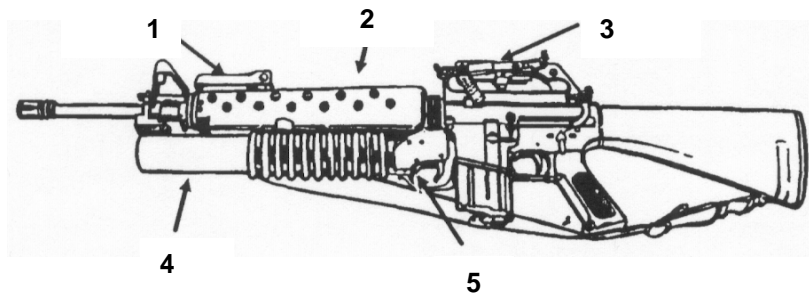
12. Which ammunition has a sensitive fuse?

13. Which ammunition does not contain a sensitive fuse?

14. How far will one notch of the rear sight aperture on the quadrant sight move the strike of the round at 200 meters?

15. What is Condition 3 for the M203?

16. Identify the components in the diagrams below.



- | | |
|--------------------|-------|
| a. Barrel assembly | _____ |
| b. Hand guard | _____ |
| c. Leaf sight | _____ |
| d. Quadrant sight | _____ |
| e. Receiver | _____ |
| f. Safety | _____ |
| g. Trigger | _____ |

True or False. Select the correct answer to these three questions.

17. A misfire is treated as a hangfire until proven otherwise. ☐ True ☐ False

18. When the safety is forward, the M203 is ready to fire. ☐ True ☐ False

19. Sensitive fuse ammunition can be fired in maneuver training areas. ☐ True ☐ False

M203 Review Question Answers

Short Answer. The answers to the 16 questions are provided below.

1. What must you do before you disassemble the M203?

You must clear the weapon.

2. Write, in correct sequence, the three steps for removing the barrel assembly of the M203 using method 1?

Push the barrel latch and move the barrel forward until it hits the barrel stop.
On the left side of the hand guard, insert a cleaning rod into the fourth hole back from the muzzle.
Depress the barrel stop and slide the barrel forward and off.

3. Write, in correct sequence, the three steps for removing the barrel assembly of the M203 using method 2?

Pull back on the M16's slip ring and remove the hand guard by pulling it up and back.
Push the barrel latch and move the barrel forward until it hits the barrel stop.
Use a cleaning rod to depress the barrel stop and slide the barrel forward and off.

4. What is Condition 1 for the M203?

Round in the chamber
Action closed
Safety on

5. What is the effective casualty radius of the M203 HEDP round?

5m

6. What is the maximum effective range of the M203 against a point target?

150m

7. What is Condition 4 for the M203?

Chamber empty
Action closed
Safety on

8. Do not fire HEDP at targets closer than

- a. 165 meters during training
- b. 31 meters in combat

9. What is the first thing you do during immediate action in a training situation?

Shout, "Misfire!" and clear the area of any nonessential personnel.

10. What is a delay in the functioning of the round's propelling charge explosive train at the time of firing?

Hangfire

11. What is the desired range for zeroing the M203?

200 meters

12. Which ammunition has a sensitive fuse?

High explosive dual purpose (HEDP) DODIC B546
Practice (M407A1) DODIC B577

13. Which ammunition does not contain a sensitive fuse?

Practice (M781) DODIC B519

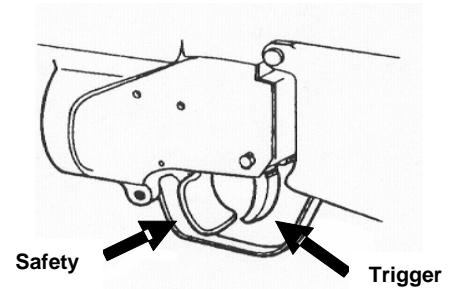
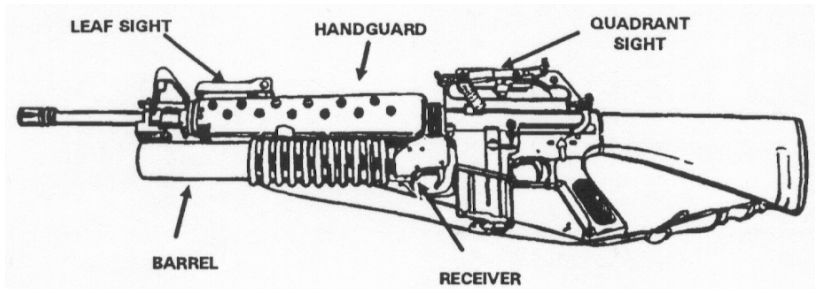
14. How far will one notch of the rear sight apert

1½ meters

15. What is Condition 3 for the M203?

Not applicable to M203

16. Identify the components in the diagram below



- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| a. Barrel assembly | <u>4</u> |
| b. Hand guard | <u>2</u> |
| c. Leaf sight | <u>1</u> |
| d. Quadrant sight | <u>3</u> |
| e. Receiver | <u>5</u> |
| f. Safety | <u>6</u> |
| g. Trigger | <u>7</u> |

True or False. The correct answers are marked.

17. A misfire is treated as a hangfire until proven otherwise. ☒ True ☐ False

18. When the safety is forward, the M203 is ready to fire. ☒ True ☐ False

19. Sensitive fuse ammunition can be fired in maneuver training areas. ☐ True ☒ False